Dublin, Friday, Sept. 25, 1857.

Dear Mrs Chapman — I rec'd your note. I had not before I have not seen heard anything of the Sydney Fair project. If any such plan came to my knowledge I wish discountenance it. I have never done anything even for the Philadelphia Fair on the ground that the public attention would be pattered away ~~with~~ probably by being directed to too many efforts of this kind. and that the more personal interest is created in the principal movers, the better for the cause I am connected with it. There seems I see no opportunity of spreading. I know S. H. S. is no doubt the truth a very ~~[illegible]~~ absurd huff with me some year ago & I don't think he has ever quite got over it, as to your letter or anything you can have to say to me nobody but his lordship is a bit the wiser — and she is perfectly trustworthy. I might add much better when well & steady (which she is not now) — but never when you recommend special caution — this care however is only taken from excess of precaution. As P. P. is not coming perhaps you would kindly send the whole to me by any ordinary mode of transmission to the care of J. R. Graves, Better Buildings, Liverpool. But before they are sent I would wish to add to them a few books from S. H. Gay's cutting for by Maria Weston's photographer portrait which I have by me & some peartree slips which a friend whom I desire to oblige has asked me write for. I write

Ms. H.G. 2.24.23

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wrote a note to enclose it for S. H. Gay asking for the books & the portrait for which I already wrote to him & I hope he will send them soon to you with a memorandum of the price which Fraser may have for me. I will settle the whole with you in my next statement with Mr. Gay. Did I ever pay you a pound you gave for me to the poor French poet whose name I don't remember? If not, I meant to do so, & ought to thank you to say for I have totally forgotten. I am always glad to be told precisely about such matters, for I don't willingly cheat my friends.

I have got Halpert's book, for which I am I believe indebted to the ever watchful kindness of S. Gay. I am delighted with it & rejoiced by it.

A friend just returned from Zurich says poor Mr. Webb, (Mrs Stowe's friend) is in extremely poor health - I fear consumption from what I hear.

I had a charming letter from Ford Madox Brown a few days ago. By his request I wrote to Mr Theodore who says they have not heard from Fr. Rossetti for many

posts. They have not heard by the last for he wrote his opinion to Say so. He had had bad health – he was obliged to go more than once to Ceylon to recruit. I fear this deadful work in India will destroy the poor fellows!

I am told Charles Sumner will call on me in a few days as he is coming to Ireland I suppose on a visit to Lord Carlisle.

Mama Waring has sent me her annual 100 dollars for the Bekaars – though I am sure she does not want me to say so

Yours ever

Richd D Webb

Ms. A.9. 2.29.23